

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 6, 8, 10, 31, 32 and 61 as follows.

Add claim 71.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said ~~arm-guide~~ having inner and outer ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends, and said central portion including a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end ~~and terminating at~~ said outer end; said ribs adapted to support a tape to be dispensed.

7. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 6, wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

8. (Currently Amended) The tape dispenser of claim 6, wherein said plurality

of ribs includes a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs, said laterally outwardly adjacent ribs being in said laterally spaced apart opposite sides.

9. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 8, wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

10. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends, said central portion including a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end, said plurality of ribs including a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs, said opposite sides of said tape guide including ledges extending in said direction, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

11. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer

ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends, said central portion including a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end, said plurality of ribs including a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs, said opposite sides of said tape guide including ledges extending in said direction, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide, the ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs extending from said inner end of said bottom and terminating adjacent said tape retaining tabs.

12. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 11, wherein said ledges have inner ends spaced forwardly of said inner end of said bottom and terminate at said outer end of said bottom.

13-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer ends with respect to said support and said arm including side walls between said top and bottom thereof, said side walls having outer and inner sides, said inner sides providing said

opposite sides of said tape guide, and said outer sides converging in the direction from said inner end of said tape guide toward said outer end thereof.

18. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 17, wherein said outer and inner sides of said side walls merge adjacent said outer end of said tape guide.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said support being an annular hub and said bottom of said arm being spaced from and extending radially of said hub, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer ends with respect to said support and said arm including side walls between said top and bottom thereof, said side walls having outer and inner sides, said inner sides providing said opposite sides of said tape guide, and said outer sides converging in the direction from said inner end of said tape guide toward said outer end thereof and merging adjacent said outer end of said tape guide.

21. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 20, and a tape applicator outwardly of said outer end of said tape guide having a serrated cutting edge.

22. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 21, wherein said central portion includes a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end and wherein said opposite sides of said tape guide include ledges extending in said direction.

23. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 22, wherein said tape guide further includes a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs.

24. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 23, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

25. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 24, wherein the ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs extend from said inner end of said bottom and terminate adjacent said tape retaining tabs and wherein said ledges have inner ends spaced forwardly of said inner end of said bottom and terminate at said outer end of said bottom.

26-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A tape dispenser comprising a planar wall, a tape roll support extending transverse to said wall and having an axis and an end spaced from said planar wall, an arcuate wall extending transverse to said planar wall and being radially spaced

from said tape roll support and overlying a portion thereof, said planar wall including a first arm portion extending radially outwardly of said tape roll support, a second arm portion extending from said arcuate wall transverse to said first arm portion and having an end spaced toward said end of said tape roll support, a planar third arm portion extending from said end of said second arm portion parallel to said first arm portion, said first and third arm portions having opposed inner sides and bottom edges, a tape guide adapted to support a tape to be dispensed between said inner sides including laterally opposite sides ~~guide surfaces on said inner sides and a central portion between and spaced below said laterally opposite sides~~ guide surfaces, said guide surfaces including ledges extending along said inner sides of said first and third arm portions, and said tape guide having an end spaced from said tape roll support, said ledges terminating at said end of said tape guide.

32. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a planar wall, a tape roll support extending transverse to said wall and having an axis and an end spaced from said planar wall, an arcuate wall extending transverse to said planar wall and being radially spaced from said tape roll support and overlying a portion thereof, said planar wall including a first arm portion extending radially outwardly of said tape roll support, a second arm portion extending from said arcuate wall transverse to said first arm portion and having an end spaced toward said end of said tape roll support, a planar third arm portion extending from said end of said second arm portion parallel to said first arm portion, said first and third arm portions having opposed inner sides and bottom edges, a tape guide between said inner sides including

guide surfaces on said inner sides and a central portion between and spaced below said guide surfaces, said guide surfaces including ledges extending along said inner sides of said first and third arm portions, and said tape guide having an end spaced from said tape roll support, said ledges terminating at said end of said tape guide, and said ledges being inclined downwardly and outwardly relative to said bottom edges of said first and third arm portions and merging with the bottom edges at said end of said tape guide.

33. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 32, wherein said first and third arm portions have outer sides converging with respect to the corresponding inner side in the direction of said end of said tape guide.

34. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 33, wherein the outer and inner sides of each said first and third arm portions merge adjacent said end of said tape guide.

35. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 34, wherein said central portion of said tape guide includes at least one rib depending from said second arm portion parallel to said first and third arm portions.

36. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 35, wherein said tape guide further includes a rib depending from said second arm portion between said central portion and the inner side of each said first and third arm portions and parallel to the corresponding inner side.

37. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 36, wherein said central portion includes a pair of ribs, said tape guide has an inner end, said pair of ribs and the ribs between the central portion and inner sides of said first and third arm portions extending forwardly from said inner end, and said pair of ribs terminating at said end of said tape guide.

38. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 37, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly of the bottom edge of each said first and third arm portion and rearwardly of said end of said tape guide.

39. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 38, and a tape applicator extending from said end of said bottom edges of said first and third arm portions.

40. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 39, wherein said tape applicator includes a serrated cutting edge between said first and third arm portions.

41. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 40, wherein said tape roll support includes a cylindrical hub.

42. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 31, further including a manually operable brake for restraining rotation of a tape roll mounted on said support.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Original) The tape dispenser of claim 42, wherein said support includes a hub for rotatably receiving a tape roll, said brake including a wall overlying said hub and being displaceable toward said hub.

45-60. (Cancelled)

61. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends, and said central portion including a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

62. (Previously presented) A tape dispenser comprising a support for a roll of tape and a dispensing arm extending radially of said support and having a top and a bottom, said bottom including a tape guide having laterally spaced apart opposite sides and a central

portion between and spaced below said sides, said bottom of said arm having inner and outer ends with respect to said support, said tape guide including a plurality of ribs extending in the direction between said inner and outer ends, and said central portion including a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end, a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide, and ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs and extending from said inner end of said bottom and terminating adjacent said tape retaining tabs.

63. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 6, further including a manually operable brake for restraining rotation of a tape roll mounted on said support.

64. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 63, wherein said support includes a hub for rotatably receiving a tape roll, said brake including a wall overlying said hub and being displaceable toward said hub.

65. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 20, wherein said central portion includes a pair of central ribs extending from said inner end and terminating at said outer end.

66. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 65, wherein said tape guide further includes a rib laterally outwardly adjacent each of said central ribs.

67. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 66, and a tape retaining tab extending inwardly in overlying relation to each of the opposite sides of said tape guide.

68. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 67, wherein the ribs laterally outwardly adjacent said central ribs extend from said inner end of said bottom and terminate adjacent said tape retaining tabs.

69. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 20, further including a manually operable brake for restraining rotation of a tape roll mounted on said support.

70. (Previously presented) The tape dispenser of claim 69, wherein said support includes a hub for rotatably receiving a tape roll, said brake including a wall overlying said hub and being displaceable toward said hub.

71. (New) The tape dispenser of claim 31 wherein said guide central portion comprises a pair of central ribs extending from said guide inner end to said guide outer end and said tape guide sides comprise ribs laterally adjacent said central ribs.